

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

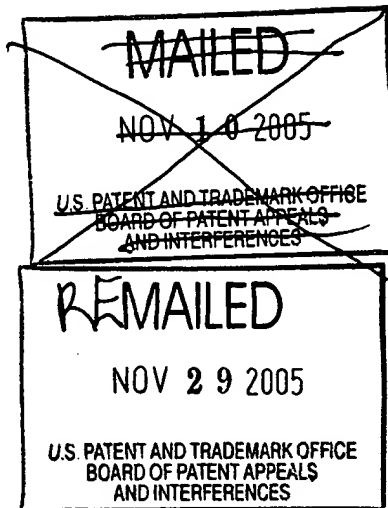
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte TOMONARI YOSHIMURA

Appeal No. 2005-2502
Application No. 09/255,987

ON BRIEF



Before OWENS, MACDONALD, and NAPPI, *Administrative Patent Judges*.
OWENS, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION ON APPEAL

This appeal is from a rejection of claims 1-7, 10, 16, 18, 19, 21-23 and 26. Claims 12-15 have been allowed. Claims 8, 9, 20, 24 and 25 stand objected to as dependent upon a rejected claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 11 and 17 have been canceled.

THE INVENTION

The appellant claims a device, storage medium and method for image correction in an image forming system which is connectable to a plurality of image readers and a plurality of image forming apparatus. Claim 1, which claims the device, is illustrative:

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1. An image correction device for use in an image forming system which is connectable to a plurality of image readers and a plurality of image forming apparatuses, the image correction device comprising:
a discriminating device for discriminating an image reader and an image forming apparatus which are connected to the image correction device;
a memory for storing correction data relating to combinations of the image reader and image forming apparatus; and
data correction means for correcting image data output from an image reader using the correction data relating to a specific combination of image reader and image forming apparatus and for outputting the corrected data to an image forming apparatus.

THE REFERENCES

Ichikawa	5,717,839	Feb. 10, 1998
Tanio	5,726,778	Mar. 10, 1998
Falk	5,760,913	Jun. 2, 1998
Harrington	6,178,007	Jan. 23, 2001

(filed Jan. 21, 1997)

THE REJECTIONS

The claims stand rejected as follows: claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Tanio; claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio; claims 4-6, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio in view of Ichikawa; claims 7, 19 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio in view of Harrington; and claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio in view of Falk.

OPINION

We affirm the aforementioned rejections.

The appellant states that the claims stand or fall together (brief, page 3). Although additional references are applied to most of the dependent claims, the appellant does not separately argue those claims. We therefore limit our discussion to one claim, i.e., claim 1. See *In re Ochiai*, 71 F.3d 1565, 1566 n.2, 37 USPQ2d 1127, 1129 n.2 (Fed. Cir. 1995); 37 CFR § 1.192(c)(7)(1997).

Tanio discloses an image processing apparatus having a color conversion circuit (304) comprising 1) a lookup table (LUT) 304-a for correcting input image data for characteristics depending on the device that inputs the image data to the color conversion circuit, 2) a matrix calculation table (304-c) for converting the data corrected by LUT 304-a to the image data on the color space of the output device, and 3) a LUT (304-b) for correcting the image data that was color-space converted by the matrix calculation table to characteristics of the output device (col. 10, lines 12-25; col. 11, lines 24-30; figure 2B).

The appellant argues that Tanio's matrix calculation table may contain data relating to the color spaces of the input and output devices, but it does not store any correction data relating to either the input device or the output device (reply brief, page 3).

In support of that argument the appellant relies upon Tanio's column 10, lines 13-26 which, the appellant argues, shows that the matrix calculation table merely converts the color space of the input corrected data to the color space used by the output device so that the image data may then be corrected according to the characteristics of the output device. See *id.*

Because Tanio's matrix calculation table converts input data corrected based upon characteristics of an input device to the color space of "the output device" (col. 10, lines 18-21), it reasonably appears that the matrix calculation table must store data relating to combinations of the input and output devices. Although Tanio uses the term "conversion", he is correcting the corrected input data to the color space of the output device. Tanio's LUT 304-b then further corrects that data to the characteristics of the output device (col. 10, lines 21-25).

Moreover, because Tanio's color conversion circuit 304, which includes LUT 304-a, matrix calculation table 304-c, and LUT 304-b, corrects data for characteristics depending on an input device to characteristics of an output device, it reasonably appears that the circuit must include memory for storing correction data relating to combinations of the input and output devices.

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The appellant argues that in Tanio's figure 14 the first two tables store information relating to the input device, whereas the second two tables store information relating to the output device (brief, pages 4-5). Thus, the appellant argues, Tanio does not store information relating to a combination of an input device and an output device. See *id.* As discussed above, it reasonably appears that Tanio's circuit 304 must include memory for storing such a data combination.

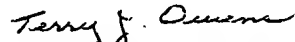
For the above reasons we are not persuaded of reversible error in the examiner's rejections.

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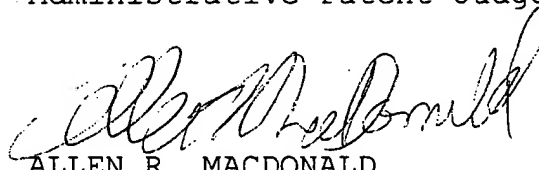
DECISION

The rejections of claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Tanio, claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio, claims 4-6, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio in view of Ichikawa, claims 7, 19 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio in view of Harrington, and claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tanio in view of Falk, are affirmed.


AFFIRMED


TERRY J. OWENS

Administrative Patent Judge


ALLEN R. MACDONALD

Administrative Patent Judge


ROBERT NAPPI

Administrative Patent Judge

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